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CANNOCK URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
together with the Report of the  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

---

1942



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1942

## MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr. COUNCILLOR A. HAMPTON

Vice-Chairman: Mr. COUNCILLOR JOS. HAMPTON

Mr. COUNCILLOR A. BAILEY

Mr. COUNCILLOR A. E. BEDDOW, M.C., M.B.E.

Mr. COUNCILLOR F. HURMSON, J.P.

Mr. COUNCILLOR J. JAMES

Mr. COUNCILLOR J. PHILLIPS

Mr. COUNCILLOR T. WHITEHOUSE

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr. COUNCILLOR A. HAMPTON

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. W. E. JACKSON

All the members of the Public Health Committee, with the following co-opted Members:—

Mrs. A. Hudson                      Mrs. A. Stanley (died 12-5-42)

Mrs. W. Ingham

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: W. F. GAPPER, B.Sc., M.B.,  
Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer: P. S. WARREN, M.B., ChB., D.P.H.

Dental Surgeon: G. WILLIAMSON, L.D.S.

Dental Attendant: Mrs. N. T. BUTLER.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Shops Act Inspector: FRED TURNER,  
C.R.S.I., Certificate of Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector: JOSEPH BALL, C.R.S.I.

Temporary Clerks for Sanitary Inspector:

Miss G. HODGKISS and

Miss D. JONES (resigned 28-2-42)

Miss B. DAVIES (appointed 26-10-42)

### HEALTH VISITORS

Miss E. FRIENDSHIP, C.M.B., S.R.N., Health Visitor's Certificate.  
Superintendent of Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss D. WATWOOD, C.M.B., Nursing Training.  
(Resigned February, 1942).

Mrs. D. ROBINSON, C.M.B., State Registered Nurse.

Miss F. M. NIXON, C.M.B., Health Visitor's Certificate, S.R.N.

Miss S. THICKENS, C.M.B., Health Visitor's Certificate, S.R.N.  
(resigned May, 1942).

Miss M. J. RAFFERTY, C.M.B., Health Visitor's Certificate, S.R.N.

Miss M. RICHARDSON, C.M.B., Nursing Training.  
(Temporary duties 1-7-42 to 31-12-42).

### CLERKS JOINTLY WITH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

|                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mrs. E. Cowern (resigned 19-12-42) | Miss D. Roden                       |
| Miss M. Young                      | Miss N. C. Low (appointed 23-11-42) |

### PART-TIME OFFICERS

Oculist : G. F. HAYCRAFT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

Surgeon for Nose and Throat : F. W. SYDENHAM, F.R.C.S., Ed.

Orthopaedic Surgeon : ERNEST A. FREEMAN, F.R.C.S., M.B., B.S.

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon : W. L. THOMAS, F.R.C.S., D.L.O.

Orthopaedic Masseuse : Miss F. M. BARNES, C.S.M.M.G.

## *To the Chairman and Members of the Cannock Urban District Council*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting this, my seventh, Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1942.

The health of the people, speaking generally, has been well maintained and compares very favourably with that existing in pre-war years. This area has been free from aerial bombardment, so that local inhabitants have not been affected to any great extent by this calamity of the war.

While the Infant Mortality Rate is the lowest ever recorded in this district, the Maternal Mortality Rate is exceptionally high. Full co-operation of every expectant mother is essential if this service is to achieve beneficial results. Each expectant mother should consult a midwife, a doctor or attend the ante-natal clinic as soon as she has reason to believe she is pregnant. As stated in the Ministry of Health's Report on an investigation into Maternal Mortality: "Maternal deaths do occur which neither skilled supervision nor treatment, however efficient, can avert, and even the most competent care and skilled midwifery practice are of no avail without the full co-operation of the patient." It is regrettable that no volunteers were available to continue the Home Helps Scheme. Better pay and constant work have probably played their part in attracting women to other work.

Diphtheria was fairly prevalent throughout the area, with seven fatal cases, none of whom had been immunised. The parents of the remaining small percentage of children not immunised should make an effort to see that their children are protected from this disease. It is reasonable to expect that the number of carriers of this disease has increased following immunisation, and therefore non-immunised children run a greater risk of becoming infected. Parents must realise that delay may prove fatal to their children.

The total deaths from Tuberculosis of all forms was much less than in the previous year. No deaths were recorded from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, which is a unique record for this area. Deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis have varied from 13 in 1913 and 1931 to 2 in 1934, 1935 and 1936 respectively. Milk is considered a potential carrier of this disease and the Council has been gravely concerned with the bad condition of the milk sold in this district during the recent years of this war, particularly the

milk produced outside our own district. Immediate effects of this state of the milk may not be obvious, but ultimate results may show themselves in later years. The main cause of the trouble has been traced to the farms where it is produced, and it is to be hoped that efficient legislation will compel production of cleaner milk than is the state at present.

Housing conditions have received the careful attention of the Council. There were apparently some difficulties in obtaining labour and material in a few cases, but most of the conscientious landlords overcame those difficulties. The Council will have to consider in the immediate future the post-war planning of the area for housing and industry. It is to be hoped that concrete plans will be formulated, as at present industry is intermixed with residential areas. The Council should at the same time consider the possibility of incorporating nurseries, nursery schools and even crèches in their future planning.

I have to draw the attention of the Council again to the need for increased facilities for tipping. Most tips have only a few years before they will be completed. The future policy of disposal of house refuse will have to be seriously considered, as in years to come it will be more difficult to find land suitably situated for tipping within the area.

I am sorry to have to record the death of Mrs. Stanley on the 12th May, 1942. Mrs. Stanley had served as a member of the Mother and Child Welfare Committee for 21 years, and had given valuable practical assistance as a voluntary helper at the Hednesford Welfare for many years. She had been hoping to see the Welfare held in better premises, and it is regrettable that she passed away when new premises were being arranged for which she had striven hard for a number of years.

I wish to express my thanks for the courtesy shown to me by you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Council, and particularly to the members of the Committees mostly concerned with the Public Health Department. I also wish to record my thanks to the members of my staff and of the Sanitary Department for their help and loyalty, and to members of the other Council departments for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

The General Practitioners, Midwives, District Nurses, the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C., and voluntary workers at the Child Welfare Centres have worked in close harmony and co-operation with my department, for which I am grateful.



The Civil Defence Volunteers have continued with their services as in the past year, and the gratitude of the whole district is due to them for the amount of time and service they have rendered.

I am, Your obedient servant,

W. F. GAPPER.

Public Health Department,  
Church Street,  
Cannock.  
August, 1943.

## SECTION A.—Statistics and Social Conditions

### VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

|   |       |         |
|---|-------|---------|
| Area of the district (excluding area covered by water) ... ..                 | acres | 8,155   |
| Total population at all ages at 1931 Census ...                               |       | 35,300  |
| Registrar-General's estimate of population to middle of the year ... ..       |       | 37,320  |
| Rateable Value (end of financial year 1942-43) ...                            | £     | 157,327 |
| Product of a penny rate (financial year 1942-43) ...                          | £     | 610     |
| Nett Births ... ..  |       | 800     |
| Birth Rate (per 1,000 of estimated population) (live and still-births) ... .. |       | 21·44   |
| Nett Deaths belonging to the whole district :—                                |       |         |
| Under one year of age ... ..  |       | 40      |
| At all ages ... ..  |       | 370     |
| Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) ...                             |       | 52·0    |
| Death Rate (at all ages) ... ..   |       | 9·91    |
| Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) at end of year ... ..    |       | 9,488   |

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Unemployment figures are not available for publication. Poor Law Relief figures were not available at the time of writing this report. There was no evidence of undue poverty in the district. Housing conditions were not very satisfactory. There were also difficulties for quick and efficient service for repairing footwear, which was mostly noticed amongst school children.



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

The natural increase of population shown as excess of births over deaths is 409.

|   | Total | M   | F     |
|---|-------|-----|-------|
| Live Births, legitimate ... ..                                | 741   | 374 | 367   |
| Live Births, illegitimate ... ..                              | 28    | 18  | 10    |
| Still Births, legitimate ... ..                               | 30    | 14  | 16    |
| Still Births, illegitimate ... ..                             | 1     | —   | 1     |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population ... ..           |       |     | 21·44 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales (live births) ...  |       |     | 15·8  |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales (still births) ... |       |     | 0·54  |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population (still births) ...   |       |     | 0·83  |

|  | Total | M   | F    |
|--|-------|-----|------|
| Total Deaths ... ..                              | 370   | 230 | 140  |
| Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population ... .. |       |     | 9·91 |
| Death Rate for England and Wales ... ..          |       |     | 11·6 |

Area Comparability Factors are being suspended under present conditions.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

|                         | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 total<br>(live & still) births |              |
|-------------------------|--------|---|--------------|
|                         |        | Cannock                                       | Eng. & Wales |
| Puerperal Sepsis ... .. | 2      | 2·5   | 0·42         |
| Others ... ..           | 5      | 6·25  | 1·59         |
| Total ... ..            | 7      | 8·75  | 2·01         |

## INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths under one year of age :—

|  | Deaths | Rate  | Eng. & Wales |
|--|--------|-------|--------------|
| All Infants per 1,000 live births                              | 40     | 52·0  | 49·0         |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000<br>legitimate live births ...     | 37     | 49·9  | —            |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000<br>illegitimate live births ... | 3      | 107·1 | —            |

|  |     |     |     |    | Rate per 1,000 of<br>estimated population |                 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|---|-----------------|
|  |     |     |     |    | Rate                                      | Eng. &<br>Wales |
|  |     |     |     |    | Deaths                                    |                 |
| Cancer ... ..                              | ... | ... | ... | 49 | 1·31                                      | —               |
| Measles ... ..                             | ... | ... | ... | 1  | 0·03                                      | 0·01            |
| Whooping Cough ... ..                      | ... | ... | ... | 1  | 0·03                                      | 0·02            |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years of<br>age ... ..) | ... | ... | ... | 5  | 0·13                                      | 5·2             |
| Scarlet Fever ... ..                       | ... | ... | ... | 0  | 0·00                                      | —               |
| Diphtheria ... ..                          | ... | ... | ... | 7  | 0·19                                      | 0·05            |
| Influenza ... ..                           | ... | ... | ... | 2  | 0·05                                      | 0·09            |

## SECTION B

### General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

The Health Services functioned as in past years.

#### WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS

##### Ante-Natal Visits—

|  |     |     |     |     |       |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Primary ... ..                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 53    |
| Re-visits ... ..                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15    |
| Primary visits to infants ... ..       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 741   |
| Re-visits to infants ... ..            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,123 |
| Re-visits to infants according to age— |     |     |     |     |       |
| Under one year ... ..                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,749 |
| One to two years ... ..                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,142 |
| Two to three years ... ..              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 764   |
| Three to four years ... ..             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 668   |
| Four to five years ... ..              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 800   |

##### Special Visits :—

###### Measles :—

|                              |     |     |     |     |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Primary, all ages ... ..     | ... | ... | ... | 178 |
| Re-visits to all ages ... .. | ... | ... | ... | 41  |

###### Ophthalmia :—

|                  |     |     |     |   |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Primary ... ..   | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Re-visits ... .. | ... | ... | ... | 3 |

###### Whooping Cough :—

|                  |     |     |     |    |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Primary ... ..   | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| Re-visits ... .. | ... | ... | ... | 6  |

# WELFARE CENTRES

| Centre      | Sessions held | Primary Attendances of Infants |           | Total Attendances |           |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
|             |               | Under 1 year                   | 1—5 years | Under 1 year      | 1—5 years |
| Cannock     | 48            | 132                            | 29        | 2,302             | 842       |
| Hednesford  | 48            | 131                            | 18        | 1,962             | 1,049     |
| Chadsmoor   | 50            | 165                            | 15        | 2,623             | 522       |
| Heath Hayes | 49            | 112                            | 15        | 1,519             | 813       |
| Totals      | 195           | 540                            | 77        | 8,406             | 3,226     |

Twelve sessions of the Toddlers Clinic were held fortnightly for the first part of the year at Chadsmoor. The total attendances were 115, the average attendance being 10 per session. Forty-eight individual children attended, of whom 44 were primary attendances. Towards the middle of the year there was a shortage of staff, as two nurses left the service and were later replaced temporarily by one. As only a small number attended this clinic it was substituted for special sessions for immunisation of children under five.

# ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

These clinics are held at two centres, one at Cannock and one at Chadsmoor. Cannock Clinic is held on alternate Friday mornings. The Chadsmoor Clinic is held every Thursday morning, but the attendances at this Clinic were such that it was considered necessary to hold extra clinics on Friday mornings during the coming year. When the new clinic building at Hednesford has been furnished, an Ante-natal Clinic will be established there, which will relieve the Chadsmoor Clinic.

|   | Chadsmoor |     |       | Cannock | Total |
|---|-----------|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Primary attendances ... ..  | ...       | ... | 403   | 135     | 538   |
| Re-attendances ... ..   | ...       | ... | 1,108 | 367     | 1,475 |
| Post-natal ... ..   | ...       | ... | 10    | 2       | 12    |
| Total attendances ... ..  | ...       | ... | 1,521 | 504     | 2,025 |
| Number of Sessions ... ..   | ...       | ... | 50    | 26      | 76    |
| Average No. per Session ... ..  | ...       | ... | 30    | 19      | 49    |
| No. of Cases referred to Consultant ...                                 | ...       | ... | 20    | 7       | 27    |
| No. of ante-natal cases referred to Consultant by Private Practitioners | ...       | ... | ...   | ...     | 6     |
| Abnormalities detected (defects not cases) ... ..                       | ...       | ... | 94    | 51      | 145   |

634 mothers actually attended the Ante-natal Clinics, or 79·25% of the expectant mothers in the district.

One session per week is allocated by the Dentist for dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers.

The Dentist reports :—

131 new patients were seen at the special clinic for expectant and nursing mothers. A total of 471 visits were made, of which 31 were purely for examination.

#### TREATMENT GIVEN

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Extractions   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 876 | - |
| General Anaesthetics given                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 115 |   |
| Scaling   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16  |   |
| Sundry Operations   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20  |   |
| Patients fitted with Dentures                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 53  |   |
| Repairs   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |   |
| Operations (visits) construction of Dentures<br>and Repairs | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 251 |   |

Pre-school children were seen by the Dentist at sessions held on Saturday mornings. He reports :—

Pre-school Children :—

|                      |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| No. of patients      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40  |
| Extractions          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 100 |
| General Anaesthetics | ... | ... | ... | ... | 35  |
| Other operations     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |

#### INFANT LIFE PROTECTION

Sixteen children were on the Register at the end of the year, to whom a total of 87 visits were paid throughout the year.

#### BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN

Six visits were paid to these children on behalf of the Public Assistance Committee.

#### PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Eleven cases were notified, of whom ten were removed to hospital. The same arrangements existed for hospital treatment as in past years.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were seven maternal deaths recorded during the year, giving a maternal mortality rate of 9·1, which is exceptionally high. The cause of death in each case was as follows :—

- A. Age 42. Shock. Obstructed Labour.
- B. Age 27. Shock. Retained Placenta.
- C. Age 20. Eclampsia.
- D. Age 29. Toxaemia of pregnancy following full term delivery.
- E. Age 25. Broncho-pneumonia. Puerperal Infection. Pyelonephritis.
- F. Age 32. Acute Nephritis. Pregnancy.
- G. Age 25. Septicaemia. Puerperal Sepsis.

All cases were admitted to the Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton, where they received expert medical attention. Each case had received some ante-natal supervision for varying periods. In the case F, the patient was transferred to an institution suffering from nephritis after a normal delivery of a child three weeks previously at the Women's Hospital. She was removed home three days later at her own request, where she died within ten days. All the other cases died in hospital, where they failed to respond to treatment.

## HOME HELPS

Twelve individual cases were provided with Home Helps. This valuable service ceased to exist when those engaged found more suitably paid and constant work. Efforts have been made to engage suitable women, but up to the present none have been available.

## INFANT MORTALITY

Fourteen infants died of premature birth, four of birth injuries, five of gastro enteritis, five of congenital causes and three of broncho-pneumonia. The following were the causes of death of one infant respectively :—Anaemia melaena neonatorum; Whooping Cough; Intussusception; Icterus gravis neonatorum; defective vitality (one of twins); white asphyxia (one of twins); bronchitis; acute peritonitis and influenza.

Twenty-six infants were under one month, of whom 21 were less than one week old. Thus more than 50% of the infant deaths occurred within the first week of birth.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Three were notified, all of whom were removed to hospital, where they recovered without any damage to their eyes.

## TREATMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE

204 children were treated at special clinics as follows:—  
Squint 19; tonsils and adenoids operations 14; orthopaedic 109;  
aural defects 22; dental 40.

## SECTION C.—Sanitary Circumstances

### WATER

All dwellings, factories, etc., within the area are supplied with water by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co., except the following:—

One house obtains water from a well.

Two houses are supplied from springs where water is collected in shallow wells.

Fourteen houses obtain water from a nearby Colliery.

The Waterworks Company kindly submit a monthly report on the chemical and bacteriological condition of the water at their various reservoirs.

Thirteen samples of water were submitted during the year by the Sanitary Inspector for chemical and bacteriological examination. Two samples showing evidence of slight or remote sewage pollution were dealt with after consulting those concerned. One sample of water situated in another district, to where boys from a local school were going to camp, was found unsatisfactory. Special arrangements were made to supply them with satisfactory water for drinking and cooking.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No additional remarks can be added to those in the previous year.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS

Of the ten samples of river water submitted for chemical analysis, only one was found unsatisfactory. This was due to a small private sewage disposal plant, where improvements were carried out.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

|                            | End of 1941 | End of 1942 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Water Closets ... ..       | 10,174      | 10,207      |
| Waste Water Closets ... .. | 392         | 392         |
| Dustbins ... ..            | 9,487       | 9,487       |



|               |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Privies       | ... | ... | 16  | 10  |
| Privy Ashpits | ... | ... | 8   | 4   |
| Privy Pans    | ... | ... | 153 | 155 |
| Dry Ashpits   | ... | ... | —   | —   |

#### OFFICES

Twenty-four visits were paid to Offices and improvements to sanitary accommodation were made at certain premises where both sexes were being employed.

#### CAMPING SITES

Only one official camping site exists within the area, which is the Boy Scouts' Camp at Beaudesert Park. This is kept in excellent condition, with a satisfactory water supply and sanitary arrangements. When in use, arrangements are made for the collection of refuse and food waste.

Local school children camped at a site outside the district, and satisfactory arrangements were made for adequate water supply and sanitary accommodation.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

The work was carried out by the staff of the Council under the control of the Surveyor as in past years. I have already referred to the need for the consideration by the Council of the future aspects of refuse disposal. Only two sites—Littleworth Clayhole and Hawkes Green—will possibly be available after the next three years. Two other sites will last about two to three years, viz., Heath Hayes and Brindley Heath, while the remaining four will hardly last two years.

#### SCABIES AND VERMINOUS PERSONS

All cases of Scabies and verminous persons brought to the notice of the Health Department were treated at home or at the clinics. Benzyl Benzoate emulsion was used for treatment of Scabies, and Lethane Oil for cases infected with lice. Supervision of all cases was carried out by the Health Visitors until each case was discharged as cured.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

##### 1.—THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS

Inspection of Dwelling Houses :—

|                          |     |     |     |      |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (1) Housing Inspections  | ... | ... | ... | 8    |
| (2) District Inspections | ... | ... | ... | 2976 |
| „ „ Bakehouses           | ... | ... | ... | 148  |



|   |   |  |     |     |     |      |
|---|---|--|-----|-----|-----|------|
| „ | „ | Common Lodging House                   | ... | ... | ... | 38   |
| „ | „ | Cowsheds                               | ... | ... | ... | 214  |
| „ | „ | Dairies                                | ... | ... | ... | 235  |
| „ | „ | Milk Shops                             | ... | ... | ... | 36   |
| „ | „ | Milk Bars                              | ... | ... | ... | 4    |
| „ | „ | Milk Floats                            | ... | ... | ... | 66   |
| „ | „ | Ice Cream Shops                        | ... | ... | ... | 15   |
| „ | „ | Restaurant Kitchens                    | ... | ... | ... | 20   |
| „ | „ | Fried Fish Shops                       | ... | ... | ... | 60   |
| „ | „ | Shops                                  | ... | ... | ... | 263  |
| „ | „ | Meat Shops                             | ... | ... | ... | 1666 |
| „ | „ | Grocers Shops                          | ... | ... | ... | 632  |
| „ | „ | Slaughter Houses                       | ... | ... | ... | 90   |
| „ | „ | Meat Distributing Centre               | ... | ... | ... | 243  |
| „ | „ | Markets                                | ... | ... | ... | 400  |
| „ | „ | Factories                              | ... | ... | ... | 54   |
| „ | „ | Knacker's Yard                         | ... | ... | ... | 62   |
| „ | „ | School Sanitary Conveniences           | ... | ... | ... | 43   |
| „ | „ | Public Conveniences                    | ... | ... | ... | 52   |
| „ | „ | Works for abatement of nuisances       | ... | ... | ... | 1110 |
| „ | „ | Works for abatement of housing repairs | ... | ... | ... | 34   |
| „ | „ | Complaints investigated                | ... | ... | ... | 156  |
| „ | „ | Cinemas                                | ... | ... | ... | 4    |
| „ | „ | Water Courses                          | ... | ... | ... | 32   |
| „ | „ | Tips                                   | ... | ... | ... | 12   |
| „ | „ | Living Vans                            | ... | ... | ... | 5    |
| „ | „ | Sewage Disposal Works                  | ... | ... | ... | 4    |
| „ | „ | Pit-Head Baths                         | ... | ... | ... | 6    |
| „ | „ | Canal Boats—Wharves                    | ... | ... | ... | 24   |
| „ | „ | School Air Raid Shelters               | ... | ... | ... | 42   |
| „ | „ | Camping Grounds                        | ... | ... | ... | 2    |
| „ | „ | Mortuaries                             | ... | ... | ... | 19   |
| „ | „ | A.R.P. Posts                           | ... | ... | ... | 32   |
| „ | „ | Making-up Rooms (Food)                 | ... | ... | ... | 204  |
| „ | „ | Egg Depot                              | ... | ... | ... | 15   |
| „ | „ | Air-Raid Shelters                      | ... | ... | ... | 60   |
| „ | „ | Ministry of Food Depots                | ... | ... | ... | 36   |
| „ | „ | Canteens                               | ... | ... | ... | 47   |
| „ | „ | Premises under Rats & Mice Dest. Act   | ... | ... | ... | 86   |
| „ | „ | Premises re Small Pox contact          | ... | ... | ... | I    |

## 2.—THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Informal                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 262 |
| Statutory, Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 45 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0   |
| „ „ „ „ „ Sec. 56                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0   |
| „ „ „ „ „ Sec. 83                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7   |
| „ „ „ „ „ Sec. 84                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| „ „ „ „ „ Sec. 93                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37  |
| „ Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 66                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| „ „ „ „ „ Sec. 9                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |

## 3.—RESULT OF SERVICE

|                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of nuisances abated  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 162 |
| * Notices not complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3   |

\* Some of these were informal notices.

## SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AT FACTORIES

Improvements found necessary, including cleansing, repairing, limewashing and provision of sanitary and washing accommodation, were carried out where it was found necessary.

## OUTWORKERS

No notices were received during the year.

## BAKEHOUSES

|                                 |     |     |     |     |   |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Water closet roofs repaired     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Water closet flushing apparatus | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| New seats to water closet pans  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Windows cleansed                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Doors cleansed                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Floors cleansed                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Walls repaired (plaster)        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Apparatus cleansed              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Yards cleansed                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

## SECTION D.—Housing

No houses were built either by the Local Authority or by private enterprise.

## FITNESS OF HOUSES

Eight houses were inspected, 75% of which were damp but clean and not overcrowded. The number of persons per house was 4·37, with 1·11 rooms per person, or 35 persons to 39 rooms (15 living rooms and 24 sleeping rooms).

Further statistics are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

### OVERCROWDING

|  |     |     |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| No. of cases on books at end of year                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37 |
| No. of cases dealt with                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45 |
| No. of overcrowded cases abated :—                         |     |     |     |     |    |
| From Council Houses  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  |
| From Private Houses  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  |
| No. of new cases reported to the Medical Officer of Health |     |     |     |     | 22 |

### UNFIT HOUSES

One unfit house was demolished voluntarily.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT

No complaints were received and observations have been made on the various chimney stacks and pit mounds in the area.

## SECTION E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food

Details of supervision and inspection of food, carried out as in the past, are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Reference has been made to the unsatisfactory condition of the milk brought to the district from outside the area. The Council has brought this question to the notice of neighbouring local authorities and to representatives of the Milk Marketing Board. More supervision at the source of production of the milk would probably cause a great improvement. Milk is reserved mostly for children, expectant or nursing mothers and invalids. These are a section of the population who need clean and wholesome supplies, but the supplies brought to this district have been far from satisfactory.

Pasteurisation may reduce the risk of infection, but it will not remove the dirt found in milk delivered into this district. Shortage of labour has been suggested as being partly responsible for this condition to exist, but if the same care and attention was enforced by legislation in production of clean milk as there is in other trades, a better standard would be attained.

## SECTION F.—Infectious Diseases

### DIPHTHERIA

There was an increase in the incidence of diphtheria, being 129 as compared with 73 in the past year. There were seven fatal cases. 119 cases of clinical diphtheria and 25 carriers were removed to hospital.

### IMMUNISATION

During the year 2,316 were immunised, while another 75 did not complete the course. From our records, at the end of the year 6,338 children have been immunised in the area, while another 159 had not completed the course.

At the time of writing this report, 7,452 had been immunised since the inception of the scheme in November, 1937, of whom at present 2,281 are under five, 4,620 are five to fourteen, and 551 over fourteen. By the end of the year approximately 65% of all children under five (including children 0—1 who are not immunised) and 64% of children five to fifteen have been immunised (but not necessarily Schick negative). At the time of writing this report, 76% of children under five and 75% of children five to fifteen had been immunised.

Parents of the remaining 25%, as well as those of babies reaching the end of their first year, should arrange to have their children immunised as soon as possible.

All parents are contacted in various ways, and lack of knowledge regarding this scheme for immunisation can no longer be held as an excuse for their apathy.

### SCARLET FEVER

Seventy-three cases were notified, 25 of whom were removed to hospital. As in the past years, most cases were mild and none were fatal.

### CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS

One case was notified, a boy of seven, who was treated in hospital and made a complete recovery.

A boy 1½ years old died within about 24 hours of being taken ill and before the doctor arrived. Report of death was received a few days later, the cause of death being certified as cerebro-spinal meningitis.

#### ENTERIC FEVER

No case of enteric fever was notified.

#### PNEUMONIA

Sixteen cases of primary pneumonia were notified and there were 16 deaths from all forms of pneumonia. This is the lowest number of deaths from pneumonia recorded for the past ten years and may be attributed to the mild winter experienced during this year.

#### MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

515 cases of measles and 53 whooping cough were notified. One girl aged 18 months died of broncho-pneumonia following measles, and one aged eight months died of the same complication following whooping cough.

#### CANCER

There was an increase of 13 in the number of deaths from cancer, giving a death rate of 1.3 as compared with 0.95 in the previous year.

DEATHS FROM CANCER, 1942

|   | AGE GROUPS |   |       |   |       |   |       |    |       |   | Totals |    |
|---|------------|---|-------|---|-------|---|-------|----|-------|---|--------|----|
|   | 0—15       |   | 15—25 |   | 25—45 |   | 45—65 |    | 65 up |   |        |    |
|   | M          | F | M     | F |       | F | M     | F  | M     | F | M      | F  |
|   |            |   |       |   |       |   |       |    |       |   |        |    |
| Cancer of Buccal Cavity, Pharynx and Oesophagus .. ..                         |            |   |       |   |       |   |       |    | 1     |   | 2      |    |
| Cancer of Digestive Organs and Peritoneum, including Liver and Pancreas .. .. |            |   |       |   | 1     |   | 8     | 4  | 4     | 3 | 12     | 8  |
| Cancer of Male Genito Urinary Organs .. ..                                    |            |   |       |   |       |   |       |    |       |   |        |    |
| Cancer of Female Genito Urinary Organs .. ..                                  |            |   |       |   |       |   |       |    |       |   |        |    |
| Cancer of Breast .. ..  |            |   |       |   |       |   |       | 3  |       | 2 |        | 5  |
| Cancer of Uterus .. ..  |            |   |       |   |       |   |       | 2  |       |   |        | 2  |
| Cancer of Other Sites .. ..   |            |   |       |   | 1     | 1 | 5     | 1  | 8     | 4 | 14     | 6  |
| TOTALS .. ..  |            |   |       |   | 1     | 2 | 14    | 10 | 13    | 9 | 28     | 21 |

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1942

| NOTIFIABLE<br>DISEASE                                    | CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT |    |    |    |     |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |       | Total Cases<br>Removed to<br>Hospital | Total<br>Deaths |
|--|----------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
|  | AT AGES — YEARS                  |    |    |    |     |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |                                       |                 |
|  | Under<br>1 Year                  | +  | +  | +  | +   | +   | +  | +  | +  | +  | +  | +  | Total |                                       |                 |
|  | 1                                | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5   | 6   | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13    |                                       |                 |
| Diphtheria .. ..   |                                  | 4  | 4  | 8  | 8   | 44  | 30 | 14 | 14 | 2  | 1  |    | 129   | 121                                   | 7               |
| Erysipelas .. ..   | 1                                |    |    |    |     |     |    | 1  | 1  | 3  | 1  | 2  | 9     |                                       |                 |
| Scarlet Fever .. ..                                      |                                  | 2  |    | 6  | 3   | 29  | 19 | 4  | 6  |    |    |    | 69    | 21                                    |                 |
| Pneumonia .. ..  |                                  |    |    |    |     | 4   | 1  | 3  | 5  | 1  | 1  |    | 15    |                                       | 16              |
| Puerperal Fever .. ..                                    |                                  |    |    |    |     |     |    | 1  | 9  | 1  |    |    | 11    | 11                                    | 2               |
| Cerebro-Spinal<br>Meningitis                             |                                  |    |    |    |     | 1   |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1     | 1                                     | 1               |
| Ophthalmia<br>Neonatorum                                 | 3                                |    |    |    |     |     |    |    |    |    |    |    | 3     | 3                                     |                 |
| Measles .. ..  | 19                               | 49 | 67 | 54 | 93  | 220 | 6  | 1  | 1  |    |    |    | 510   |                                       | 1               |
| Whooping Cough .. ..                                     | 3                                | 3  | 5  | 9  | 12  | 19  | 1  |    |    | 5  | 6  |    | 52    |                                       | 1               |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis<br>Other Forms of<br>Tuberculosis |                                  |    |    |    |     | 2   | 1  | 3  | 13 |    |    |    | 29    |                                       |                 |
| TOTALS .. ..   | 26                               | 58 | 76 | 77 | 116 | 321 | 58 | 28 | 49 | 12 | 9  | 2  | 832   | 157                                   | 28              |



# TUBERCULOSIS

| Age<br>Periods | NEW CASES   |     |                 |     | Total | DEATHS      |     |                 |     | Total |
|----------------|-------------|-----|-----------------|-----|-------|-------------|-----|-----------------|-----|-------|
|                | Respiratory |     | Non-Respiratory |     |       | Respiratory |     | Non-Respiratory |     |       |
|                | M           | F   | M               | F   |       | M           | F   | M               | F   |       |
| 0—1            | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...   | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...   |
| 1—5            | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...   | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...   |
| 5—15           | 1           | 1   | 1               | 1   | 4     | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...   |
| 15—25          | ...         | 3   | 2               | ... | 5     | 2           | ... | ...             | ... | 2     |
| 25—35          | 8           | 5   | ...             | ... | 13    | 1           | 1   | ...             | ... | 2     |
| 35—45          | 4           | 1   | ...             | ... | 5     | 5           | 1   | ...             | ... | 6     |
| 45—55          | 1           | ... | ...             | ... | 1     | 4           | ... | ...             | ... | 4     |
| 55—65          | 1           | 4   | ...             | ... | 5     | 1           | 2   | ...             | ... | 3     |
| 65 up          | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...   | 2           | ... | ...             | ... | 2     |
| Totals         | 15          | 14  | 3               | 1   | 33    | 15          | 4   | ...             | ... | 19    |

While there were three more male and six more female pulmonary cases notified during the year, there were one less male and four less female non-pulmonary cases notified.

There were 19 deaths from tuberculosis (all pulmonary) compared with 32 (pulmonary and non-pulmonary) in the previous year.

There were nine more notifications and thirteen fewer deaths compared with the previous year.

The total number on the register at the end of the year was 262, being 144 males and 118 females.

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population :—

Respiratory ... .. 0·51

Non-Respiratory ... .. 0·00

The Health Visitors paid 28 primary and 552 re-visits.

Sleeping accommodation of the pulmonary cases visited :—

Patients having a bed and room to themselves ... 54

Patients occupying a separate bed but sharing a room 16

Patients occupying a bed with others ... .. 52

Notice of admission to Institutions was received as follows :—

Groundslow Sanatorium ... .. 6

Prestwood Sanatorium ... .. 11

Himley Sanatorium ... .. 1

Standon Hall ... .. 4

Kinver ... .. 1

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or the Public Health Act, 1936.

# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1942

|        |  |     |     |     | Males | Females |
|--------|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|
| 1.     | Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever                   | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| 2.     | Cerebro-Spinal Fever                             | ... | ... | ... | 1     | —       |
| 3.     | Scarlet Fever                                    | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| 4.     | Whooping Cough                                   | ... | ... | ... | —     | 1       |
| 5.     | Diphtheria                                       | ... | ... | ... | 4     | 3       |
| 6.     | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System               | ... | ... | ... | 15    | 4       |
| 7.     | Other forms of Tuberculosis                      | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| 8.     | Syphilitic                                       | ... | ... | ... | 1     | —       |
| 9.     | Influenza  | ... | ... | ... | 1     | 1       |
| 10.    | Measles  | ... | ... | ... | —     | 1       |
| 11.    | Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis       | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| 12.    | Acute Infective Encephalitis                     | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| 13.    | Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph. (M)              | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
|        | Uterus (F)                                       | ... | ... | ... | 2     | 2       |
| 14.    | Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum                   | ... | ... | ... | 12    | 8       |
| 15.    | Cancer of Breast                                 | ... | ... | ... | —     | 5       |
| 16.    | Cancer of all other sites                        | ... | ... | ... | 14    | 6       |
| 17.    | Diabetes   | ... | ... | ... | —     | 1       |
| 18.    | Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions                   | ... | ... | ... | 9     | 9       |
| 19.    | Heart Disease                                    | ... | ... | ... | 45    | 29      |
| 20.    | Other diseases of Circ. System                   | ... | ... | ... | 17    | 10      |
| 21.    | Bronchitis                                       | ... | ... | ... | 16    | 5       |
| 22.    | Pneumonia  | ... | ... | ... | 10    | 6       |
| 23.    | Other Respiratory Diseases                       | ... | ... | ... | 3     | —       |
| 24.    | Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum                     | ... | ... | ... | 3     | 1       |
| 25.    | Diarrhoea under 2 years                          | ... | ... | ... | 5     | —       |
| 26.    | Appendicitis                                     | ... | ... | ... | 4     | —       |
| 27.    | Other Digestive Diseases                         | ... | ... | ... | —     | 7       |
| 28.    | Nephritis  | ... | ... | ... | 5     | 8       |
| 29.    | Puerperal and Post-abortion. Sepsis              | ... | ... | ... | —     | 2       |
| 30.    | Other Maternal causes                            | ... | ... | ... | —     | 5       |
| 31.    | Premature Births                                 | ... | ... | ... | 12    | 4       |
| 32.    | Congenital Malformation, birth inj., infant dis. | ... | ... | ... | 10    | 2       |
| 33.    | Suicide  | ... | ... | ... | —     | 1       |
| 34.    | Road Traffic Accidents                           | ... | ... | ... | 2     | 1       |
| 35.    | Other violent causes                             | ... | ... | ... | 10    | 1       |
| 36.    | All other causes                                 | ... | ... | ... | 29    | 17      |
| Totals |  |     |     |     | 230   | 140     |

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health  
Committee*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit to you a report of the work performed by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1942.

## NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Foul drains, water closets, cesspools, sinks, urinals ... ..                | 83  |
| Insufficient water closets and drains ... ..                                | 127 |
| Accumulations of manure and other offensive matter ... ..                   | 2   |
| Animals so kept as to be a nuisance ... ..                                  | 5   |
| Dirty dwelling houses ... ..  | 17  |
| Dwelling houses needing repairs ... ..                                      | 143 |
| Dwelling houses overcrowded ... ..  | 45  |
| Number of nuisances and other matters reported during the<br>year ... ..    | 281 |
| Number of Notices served ... ..   | 262 |
| Number of Statutory Notices served under Section 93,<br>P.H.A., 1936 ... .. | 37  |

## PRINCIPAL STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 33  | Additional water closets provided.                       |
| 296 | Dustbins substituted for 296 worn-out dustbins.          |
| 1   | New drain inspection chamber.                            |
| 6   | Drain ventilating shafts.                                |
| 14  | Yards of new glazed stoneware drains laid on 2 premises. |
| 33  | New water closet pedestal pans fitted.                   |
| 8   | New flushing apparatus fitted to water closets.          |
| 16  | Water closets cleared.                                   |
| 50  | Drains cleared.  |
| 8   | New inspection chamber covers.                           |
| 127 | Water closets put in order.                              |
| 8   | Drains repaired.   |

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of privies has again been reduced, and the number now left is only 10. These are situated at properties which

have been dealt with by way of the Housing Act, and these properties will be demolished at some later date.

The sanitary accommodation in the area is fairly well maintained, in spite of the shortage of builders and plumbers. The dustbin scheme is operating satisfactorily, but more bins could have been issued if it had been possible to increase our quantity quota. 250 bins were supplied to various properties to replace worn-out bins. This method of supplying bins has proved to be a boon to the area, inasmuch as there is no waiting for a bin when a request or complaint is made respecting a worn-out bin, and it is also found that yards are kept more tidy.

#### PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES

These conveniences are situated in the busy centres of the area, also in the Parks and Playing Fields. These premises are cleaned daily by a workman employed by the Council. An endeavour is made to keep these premises in a clean and tidy condition, but some people seem to delight in causing damage to the fittings, also breaking windows, and further, by fouling the W.C. seats and floors. The premises are all inspected frequently and any defects or other matters which are found requiring attention, are reported to the appropriate department.

#### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT SCHOOLS

All the conveniences at the Schools are of a modern type. Frequent inspections are made, and they are found to be in a clean condition.

All defects and other matters found are reported to the Director of Education.

#### AIR RAID SHELTERS

These shelters are situated in various parts of the area. The conveniences in the shelters are chemical closets.

These premises call for numerous inspections, and in certain parts of the area the shelters have been most seriously damaged, also the floors and sanitary conveniences have been fouled. Electrical fittings have been broken and parts removed, and water taps have been wrenched from the walls. The Council have given instructions that any person or persons found damaging these shelters, or fouling the floors, seats or conveniences, summary proceedings will be taken.

## SCHOOL AIR RAID SHELTERS

At each school in this area there is an air-raid shelter, and in each shelter there is provided sanitary accommodation for males and females. The type of convenience is the pail closet. All these shelters are visited by a workman from the Public Health (Sanitary) Department, who empties and cleanses the pail closets when necessary, sweeps up the floors, and keeps the premises in a clean and tidy condition. No serious complaints have been received of any fouling of the conveniences or damage to the fittings therein.

## RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1920 TO 1939

### SECTION 2 (2) OF ACT, 1920

Four applications were received from tenants under the above-mentioned Acts, and each case was considered in a report submitted, and in each case a certificate was granted.

### HOUSES IMPROVED

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Houses re-spouted ... ..                                     | 39  |
| Houses re-pointed or cemented ... ..                         | 17  |
| Roofs repaired ... ..  | 42  |
| Walls and ceilings repaired ... ..                           | 178 |
| Chimneys repaired ... ..                                     | 4   |
| Damp-proof courses provided ... ..                           | 1   |
| New wood floors and wood floors repaired ... ..              | 6   |
| Quarry and brick floors repaired ... ..                      | 14  |
| New firegrates fitted or repaired ... ..                     | 21  |
| Windows repaired, made to open, sashcords & fasteners fitted | 39  |
| New doors and doors repaired ... ..                          | 5   |
| Handrails fixed on staircases ... ..                         | 1   |
| New sinks fitted or repaired ... ..                          | 12  |
| Coppers and fireboxes repaired ... ..                        | 17  |
| Yards paved ... ..   | 1   |
| Burst water service pipes repaired ... ..                    | 37  |
| Hot water cisterns repaired ... ..                           | 1   |

## HOUSING STATISTICS

### 1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... .. | 138 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for that purpose ...  | 430 |

|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8   |
| (b) Number of inspections made for that purpose   | ... |     |     |     |     |     | 39  |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |     | 2   |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation |     |     |     |     |     |     | 133 |
| 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers                                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 79  |
| 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs   | ... | ... |     |     |     |     | 5   |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| (a) By owners   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |     | 4   |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners   |     |     |     |     |     |     | 1   |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |     | 29  |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| (a) By Owners   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |     | 28  |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners   |     |     |     |     |     |     | 0   |
| (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made   | ... | ... | ... |     |     |     | 0   |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders  | ... | ... | ... |     |     |     | 0   |
| (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0   |



|   |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

#### RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

No premises have been found to be badly affected by rats or mice. Inspections have taken place at cowsheds, dairies, food shops, premises where food is prepared or stored, markets, refuse tips. Occupiers of business premises are very keen to keep down any invasion of rats or mice, and where any person complains of these rodents, measures are immediately taken to exterminate them.

Rat baits are prepared, and the number laid is counted, and the premises visited again next day. A record of all premises treated is kept. If it is considered necessary, a more drastic method is adopted of gassing out the rats by means of the smoke drain testing machine, which is charged with a special type of paper and sulphur dioxide. The fumes are pumped into the rat runs, and it has proved to be very successful.

#### LIVING VANS AND TENTS

The number of vans in the area is much the same as last year. It is often found that certain van dwellers come into the area and draw their vehicles into the road-side. In these cases the occupants are requested to leave, because if allowed to stay would be creating nuisances by having no sanitary accommodation and causing litter and ashes to lie about the road-side.

#### MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

|                            |     |     |     |     |                |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
|                            |     |     |     |     | December, 1942 |
| Licenced Slaughter-houses  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25             |
| Visits to Meat Shops       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1666           |
| Visits to Slaughter-houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 90             |

#### UNSOUND FOOD—TUBERCULOSIS

|                           |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| BOVINES—                  |     |     |     |     |     |     | Weight lbs. |
| 4 Heads                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 117         |
| 2 Sets of Lungs           |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| Pigs—                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| 5 Carcases and all Organs | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1124        |
| 1 Piece of Pork           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2           |



|             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 10 Heads    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | -52 |
| 7 Plucks    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 1 Mesentery |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

#### UNSOUND FOOD—OTHER DISEASES

| BOVINES—                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | Weight lbs. |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| 2 Pieces of Beef          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 168         |
| 3 Livers                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| 1 Set of Lungs            |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| 5 Spleens                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| PIGS—                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| 9 Carcases and all Organs |     |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 567         |
| 3 Pieces of Pork          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42          |
| SHEEP AND LAMBS—          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| 8 Livers                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| 10 Plucks                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| OTHER FOODS—              |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| Imported Beef             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 66          |
| Bacon                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 774         |
| Ham                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51          |
| Sausage                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 763         |
| Cod Fish                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 182         |
| Haddock                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 98          |
| Witch                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14          |
| Crabs                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10          |
| Fish Cakes                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15          |
| Kippers                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 140         |
| Cheese                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 374         |
| Potatoes                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 560         |
| Rolled Oats               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 228         |
| Rice                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8           |
| Flour                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 146         |
| Cake                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 76          |
| Butter                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6           |
| Victoria Plums            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 182         |
| Dried Fruit               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1           |
| Tea                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10          |
| 128 Tins Luncheon Meat    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 635         |

|      |        |                        |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------|--------|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 30   | Tins   | Chopped Ham            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 145 |
| 51   | Tins   | Sausage Meat           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 71  |
| 2    | Tins   | Pork Tongues           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12  |
| 3    | Tins   | Corned Beef            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18  |
| 2    | Tins   | Lambs Livers           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20  |
| 5    | Tins   | Ox Tongues             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31  |
| 27   | Tins   | of Rabbit              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54  |
| 22   | Tins   | Casserole Stewed Steak | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22  |
| 48   | Tins   | Party Loaf             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36  |
| 18   | Tins   | Prepared Dinners       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18  |
| 18   | Tins   | Salmon                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18  |
| 7    | Tins   | Herrings               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| 70   | Tins   | Pilchards              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40  |
| 31   | Tins   | Vegetables             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31  |
| 79   | Tins   | Peas                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 100 |
| 1    | Box    | Haricot Beans          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25  |
| 96   | Tins   | Haricot Beans          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 96  |
| 12   | Tins   | Soups (assorted)       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6   |
| 5    | Tins   | Spaghetti              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5   |
| 42   | Tins   | Tomato Puree           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 420 |
| 82   | Tins   | Tomatoes               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 150 |
| 24   | Tins   | Apricots               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 240 |
| 19   | Tins   | Pineapple              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25  |
| 2    | Tins   | Peaches                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| 2    | Tins   | Pears                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| 2    | Tins   | Damsons                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3   |
| 2    | Tins   | Rhubarb in Syrup       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| 6    | Tins   | Plums                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6   |
| 2    | Tins   | Apples                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12  |
| 1    | Tin    | Loganberries           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| 1    | Tin    | Golden Syrup           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| 20   | Tins   | Marmalade              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30  |
| 10   | Jars   | Marmalade              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14  |
| 182  | Jars   | Jam                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 359 |
| 23   | Jars   | Pickles                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13  |
| 1181 | Tins   | Milk                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 20   | Galls. | Milk.                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| 956  | Eggs   |                        |     |     |     |     |     |     |

## SUMMARY OF WEIGHT OF MEAT CONDEMNED

|             |                |     |     |     | Weight lbs. |
|-------------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| Bovines     | Tuberculosis   | ... | ... | ... | 117         |
| Pigs        | Tuberculosis   | ... | ... | ... | 1378        |
| Bovines     | Other Diseases | ... | ... | ... | 168         |
| Pigs        | Other Diseases | ... | ... | ... | 609         |
| Other Foods |                | ... | ... | ... | 6376        |
| Total       |                |     |     |     | 8648        |

or 3 tons, 17 cwts., 24 lbs.

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND BUTCHERS' SHOPS

The number of Slaughter-houses, Butchers' Shops and Meat Stalls in the area are as follows :—

|                  |     |     |     |    |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Slaughter-houses | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| Butchers' Shops  | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Meat Stalls      | ... | ... | ... | 9  |

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES, MEAT SHOPS AND MEAT VANS

Since January, 1940, no slaughter-house has been used for the slaughter of animals intended for sale. The only time a slaughter-house is used is to slaughter a pig or pigs for private owners or cottagers and the carcasses are for their own consumption. All these carcasses were bacon pigs.

The private owner and cottager have been advised to have their pigs slaughtered in a slaughter-house for the following reasons : There are better facilities for carrying out the work. The butcher has a humane killer, and the carcass has a better chance of setting. Whereas if slaughtered at home, the carcass has often to hang in a small scullery, and the slaughtering takes place in a small or common yard, which is most unsightly to the average person.

During the year 762 pigs were slaughtered.

An arrangement was made with the Local Food Office to notify all persons applying for a licence to slaughter a pig, that they give the Chief Sanitary Inspector three hours' notice of the date and time when the slaughtering will take place, and in each case the carcass or carcasses have been inspected. Certain carcasses and parts of carcasses and organs were found to be diseased, and the owners agreed to surrender the meat. The quantity of meat is set out in the list of Unsound Food.

The slaughter-house, meat shops, rooms where sausage and similar foods are made, are inspected frequently. All these premises

have been found to be clean and satisfactory. Meat stalls are inspected each Market Day, and these were found to be satisfactory. Each stall-holder is requested to remove all bones, meat trimmings and empty meat tins after each day on which the stall has been open.

Meat Vans are now very few in number owing to petrol restrictions, and customers having to fetch their own meat, but what few there are have been found to be kept clean.

The meat supply to this area is received from the Government Slaughter-house, Walsall. The meat is conveyed in large meat vans from the Slaughter-house to the Meat Distribution Centre at Cannock. The latter premises are fitted up with proper rails on which to hang the meat, also for receiving offals. All meat and offals received are inspected, and any organs found to be diseased are condemned and destroyed. The quality of meat has varied.

The Meat Distribution Centre is kept clean. It is well lighted and ventilated. There is adequate water supply and sanitary accommodation.

#### TABLE FROM CIRCULAR 1650 CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

The Slaughter-houses in this area are not used for the slaughter of animals intended for sale and for human consumption, except in certain cases where the slaughter-houses may be used for the slaughter of pigs for persons for their own consumption.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

During the year, 10 new licences were granted to persons employed in the meat trade. Fifty-one licences were renewed during the same period.

#### KNACKER'S YARD

There is only one licenced Knacker's Yard in this area. These premises are visited weekly, and always found to be kept in a clean condition.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 ICES OR ICE CREAM

There are 52 premises registered under the above-mentioned Act, where ices or ice cream is prepared and sold. Improvements to floors in certain places have been made, and in others walls and ceilings have been limewashed. These premises are all clean and satisfactory.

## SYNTHETIC CREAM

Ten samples of Synthetic Cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. Two samples did not prove sterile; the remaining eight samples were genuine.

In the case of the two unsatisfactory samples, a letter was sent to each manufacturer together with a copy of the bacteriologist's report, and in each case an explanation was given by the manufacturers.

## SAUSAGE

Two samples of sausage meat were submitted for chemical analysis. One sample conformed to the Statutory Rules and Orders, 1941, Sec. 3. The other sample had an excessive meat content. This case was reported to the Food Executive Officer.

## RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911—1928

No samples were taken during the year owing to an absence of supply to the local furniture repairers.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSE

There is only one Common Lodging House in the area. The premises are always kept in a very clean and satisfactory condition.

Number of visits    ...    ...    ...    38

## PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS AND UNDER REGULAR INSPECTION

|  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Cowsheds   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| Dairies and Milk Shops   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57 |
| Purveyors of milk from other districts selling milk in this area |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 39 |
| Bakehouses   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| Slaughter-houses   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| Butchers' Shops  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Meat Stalls  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| Fried Fish Shops   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55 |
| Tents, Vans and Sheds  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  |
| Mortuaries   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Knacker's Yard   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Common Lodging House   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Factories  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 77 |

## CANAL BOATS

No registered canal boats were inspected during the year. The boats passing through our canals in this area were chiefly coal boats.

During the year, 24 visits were made to the following Wharves:—

- 6 to Walk Mill Wharf.
- 12 to Hednesford Wharf.
- 4 to Leacroft Wharf.
- 2 to Churchbridge Locks.

## MOTOR AMBULANCES

The Council have two motor ambulances. In the past year the number of cases of sickness and accidents removed to hospital was 1,072. The number of miles registered was 21,472, or 20·03 miles per journey.

The ambulances are adequately disinfected and cleansed after each journey. The drivers continue to carry a full complement of first-aid requisites.

## FISH FRIERS

All fish friers' premises are inspected frequently, and in each case have been found to be quite satisfactory. In many cases, the traders have carried out interior decorations to walls and ceilings without any request from this Department.

Each shop has a modern stove. These have been found to be well maintained and kept in a clean condition. There are 55 fish friers on the Register.

## DISINFESTATION

|   |    |
|---|----|
| The number of Council Houses found to be infested ... | 3  |
| The number of Council Houses disinfested ... ..       | 3  |
| The number of other houses found to be infested ...   | 20 |
| The number of other houses disinfested ... ..         | 20 |

All these houses have been treated with an insecticidal fluid, and all bedding and soft furnishings from these houses were dealt with by means of steam disinfection. The whole of the work was carried out by the staff of the Public Health (Sanitary) Department.



## STEAM DISINFECTOR

The steam disinfecter at the Council's Depot was used for disinfecting 1,982 articles.

|                                   |        |     |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Number of days Disinfecter in use | ...    | 127 |
| Gas Masks disinfected             | ... .. | 383 |

## MILK

The number of milk producers on the Register is 30; of these, 10 are producers of "Accredited" milk. The number of milking cows kept is 315, or an average of 10 per farm. At these 30 farms there are 36 cowsheds.

The producers are set out in the following table:—

|                           |        |    |
|---------------------------|--------|----|
| Wholesalers               | ... .. | 7  |
| Wholesalers and Retailers | ... .. | 9  |
| Retailers                 | ... .. | 14 |

There are also 57 Dairies and Milk Shops in the area, and 39 Retail Purveyors whose premises are outside this area.

A considerable amount of time has been spent in the inspection of cowsheds and dairies, also in the work of taking samples of milk for bacteriological examination. Several of these visits are made at the time milking is taking place. 120 samples of milk were taken during these visits. I find that cow-keepers are willing to carry out improvements when requested to do so, and they are also reasonable to take any advice that may be given which will tend to improve the production of milk from a cleanliness point of view, but some are handicapped by shortage of labour. The total number of samples of milk taken from cow-keepers and retail purveyors was 215, and in 86 cases the milk was found upon examination to be unsatisfactory. In the 86 unsatisfactory samples, 52 were produced outside our area. In these cases, a letter and a copy of the Bacteriologist's report are sent to the Sanitary Inspector in the area where the milk was produced.

In the case of the unsatisfactory samples of milk in our own area, visits are made to the farm or farms concerned, and samples of milk taken direct from the cow, the milk pail, the cooler and finally from the milk churn.

All producers and retailers are notified of the results found of all samples taken and submitted for examination.

I have stressed the importance to cow-keepers to instal steam sterilizing chests, and to use them, and keep them in a good working condition, because sterilization of utensils and churns is a most important factor in the production of clean milk.



The following licences have been granted to sell designated milks :—

|                   |     |     |     |   |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Tuberculin Tested | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Accredited        | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Pasteurised       | ... | ... | ... | 4 |

#### SCHOOL MILK SUPPLY

Pasteurised milk is supplied to all the schools in this area by a firm of milk contractors. During the year, 78 samples of milk were taken from the Contractor's vehicle whilst the milk was in course of transit to the various schools. The samples are then submitted for bacteriological examination on the same morning as they are taken. 66 samples of milk were found to be unsatisfactory as regards bacteriological count per c.c. and presence of coliform organisms, but every sample passed the phosphatase test. This was proof that the milk had been properly pasteurised. The Contractor and the Licencing Authority who granted the principle licence were communicated with by letter with copies of the bacteriologist's report enclosed.

Three samples of milk were also taken and submitted for chemical analysis. Each sample was satisfactory.

#### SHOPS ACTS, 1912—1938

During the year, 345 premises were visited. Inspections were made of the sanitary and washing facilities, also checks were made of the hours of employment of young persons. In several shops changes have been made owing to older shop assistants having to go into the various Services, and young persons have had to be employed. Improvements to sanitary accommodation have taken place at several premises.

#### GAS DECONTAMINATION STATION

The Decontamination station is kept to standard. There are now eight men in the squad and frequent practices have taken place.

The station is a disused slaughter-house in Short Street, Blackfords, and is well equipped for this purpose. There is ample water supply, premises drained to sewer, and the buildings are well lighted and ventilated. There is ample space around the building.

#### OFFICES

Periodical inspections have been made at Offices in this area.

Improvements to sanitary accommodation have been made at certain premises, owing to the firms having to employ persons of both sexes.

No. of visits ... .. 24

### CONCLUSION

The work carried out in the Department during the year has been done with great care and attention, and every matter has been dealt with as quickly as possible.

In spite of the shortage of labour in the building industry, we have been able to maintain the work of having repairs carried out.

The inspection of meat and other foods calls for a considerable amount of the Inspectors' time. It is necessary to work at week-ends and on Sundays to deal with the meat. It is a most important part of our work, and every care and attention is given to the food inspected.

The other numerous duties carried out under the various Acts of Parliament have been well maintained.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and all other members of the Council who are not on this particular Committee; also the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Gapper) and the staffs of the Public Health Department—both the Medical Officer's staff and the staff of my own Department—for the cordial assistance and help they have given to me in carrying out my numerous duties during the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

F. TURNER,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*



